## Spay/Neuter Good for pets and the people who love them.

Spay/Neuter Awareness Month

While our focus is preventing the unwanted reproduction of cats and dogs in Greater Cincinnati to prevent pet overpopulation and the resulting euthanasia of those unwanted pets in shelters, there are many other benefits to spay/neuter.

Sterilized pets live longer, healthier lives. In 2013, Banfield released findings of researchers who had looked at life longevity compared to spay/neuter status in 2.2 million dogs and 460,000 cats. The researchers found that spayed female dogs lived **23%** longer than intact female dogs, neutered dogs lived **18%** longer, spayed cats lived **39%** longer and neutered male cats lived a whopping **62%** longer than unneutered.

The following are some other benefits of sterilization:

Female spay (removal of ovaries and uterus)

- Prevents pregnancy, a possible costly cesarean section with risks to the mother, and unwanted babies
- Reduces or eliminates risk of mammary gland, ovarian and uterine cancer, especially if done before the first heat cycle (4 months in cats and 5-6 months in dogs)
- Eliminates possibility of uterine infections, which can be costly to treat and potentially fatal
- No more heat cycles with bloody discharge and annoying mating behaviors such as crying incessantly, nervous pacing, roaming, trying to escape, and attracting unneutered males

Male neuter (removal of testicles)

- Eliminates the risk of testicular cancer
- Decreases risk of prostate disease and tumors
- Significantly decreases desire to roam looking for females in heat, thereby decreasing possibility of getting lost or injury from being hit by a car or getting into fights
- Reduces or eliminates risk of marking/spraying their territory with urine (if the habit is already established, it may not be completely eliminated)
- Can decrease or eliminate mounting of inappropriate objects
- Decreases territorial and aggressive behavior, including biting and fighting

For both sexes, spaying/neutering removes discomfort, distress and distraction, freeing pets to enjoy time with their families!

## AUCTION FOR ANIMALS! Help At-Risk Cats and Dogs in our Community

We need your help!! We need items for our annual "Every Pet Matters" on-line auction to raise funds for spay/neuter and basic veterinary care for pets of families living in poverty or in temporary crisis (homeless families or abuse victims living in a shelter) in our community.

Have gift cards or presents someone gave you that you are not going to use? Have connections at any businesses (restaurants, spas, stores, etc.) that you can ask to donate a gift card? How about picking a fun theme for a basket and asking friends, family members or co-workers to each donate an item for the basket? There are many ways to help!!

We need items by the end of April 2024. Auction items can be mailed to us at 2830 Colerain Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45225 or



delivered to us Monday - Friday between 9 am and 2 pm. Or, if you have something that you need us to pick up, please email mcorwin@ucancincinnati.org. Thanks so much for helping underserved pets!!

## Give the Gift of Life - Make a Tax-Deductible Donation Today!



UCAN Nonprofit Spay & Neuter Clinic | 2830 Colerain Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45225

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